

Resolution 20-14, CD1 Testimony



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February 19, 2020

The Honorable Ikaika Anderson, Chair
Honolulu City Council
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Anderson and members of the Council,

Sorry I am unable to attend today's full Council meeting – I am currently undergoing lower back surgery to repair active nerve damage in my left leg. Sonny Borja, Sand Island Business Association (SIBA) treasurer, and Jon Yamaguchi, SIBA consultant, are present to answer any questions you may have regarding Resolution 20-14 CD1.

The fundamental purpose of real property taxes in the United States is to generate revenue to fund the provision of services by local authorities. The real property tax is the main tax supporting local: police, fire protection and emergency services, roads, and most infrastructure, e.g. sewers, street lights, garbage collection and recycling, maintenance and street cleaning, and public parks.

Sand Island is special. In fact, the 112 tenants of Sand Island Business Association are so special that local authorities, namely the City & County of Honolulu, levy especially high real property tax increases yet provide nothing in return: no refuse or recycling pick up, no bus service, no road repaving, no city parks, no regular police monitoring, no facilities maintenance e.g. no repairs to potholes, streetlights, traffic signs, sidewalks, tree trimming or sidewalk landscaping.

Resolution 20-14 CD1 will provide special tax relief to 112 special small businesses in Sand Island. Thank you for your consideration of this measure.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Milton Holt", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Milton Holt
Executive Director
Sand Island Business Association